Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 009683-489

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of	)	
	)	
Kazuhiro ISHIGURO	)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
	)	
Application No.: Unassigned	)	Examiner: Unassigned
	)	
Filed: December 9, 2003	)	Confirmation No.: Unassigned
	)	
For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND IMAGE PROCESSING PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR DISCRIMINATING DOT REGION IN IMAGE	)	

FIRST
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the cited documents is enclosed.

Japanese Patent No. 2002-24837 is discussed in the specification.

The documents are being submitted within three (3) months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later. Since the documents are being filed within the time period set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) no fee or statement is required.

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner-initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: December 9, 2003

By: _____
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Substitute for forms 1449A/PTO & 1449B/PTO	ATTORNEY'S DKT NO. 009683-489	APPLICATION NO. Unassigned
FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	APPLICANT Kazuhiro ISHIGURO	
	FILING DATE December 9, 2003	GROUP Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Issue/Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation Yes	Translation No
	*2002-24837		Japan	01-25-2002	Abst	
	11-225228		Japan	08-17-1999	Abst	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. **SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

***Also discussed in the specification**